

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following is a complete listing of the claims in this application, reflects all changes currently being made to the claims, and replaces all earlier versions and all earlier listings of the claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A print apparatus which forms a color image by applying ink materials of plural colors onto a print medium, using a recording means including a plurality of nozzle arrays arranged along a predetermined direction, said nozzle array having a plurality of nozzles to eject ink materials, said apparatus comprising:

a scanner to scan the recording means in forward scanning and backward scanning directions, wherein said scanner scans along said predetermined direction; and

a print controller to control the printing so that a printing means executes the printing while said scanner scans said recording means in the forward scanning and the backward scanning directions,

wherein said print controller applies plural ink materials for each pixel area, said pixel area ~~being an area serving~~ as a unit area to form a primary or secondary color thereon,

wherein at plural positions on a pixel area for forming the secondary color thereon, said print controller forms dots of the secondary color, in ink materials of plural colors for forming the secondary color, ~~during one scan by said scanner~~, and

~~wherein said print controller applies said ink materials of plural colors so that an application order of said ink materials of plural colors, of said dots of the secondary color to be formed at plural positions on said pixel area, may be symmetric~~

wherein said ink materials of plural colors are applied so that an

application order of said ink material of predetermined color and said ink material of second color, of said dots of the secondary color to be formed at plural positions on said pixel area, is symmetric, said predetermined color and said second color being for forming the secondary color.

2. (Currently Amended) The print apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said ink material of ~~another~~ the second color is applied plural times onto said pixel area.

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3. (Previously Presented) The print apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein dots of the ink materials of the plural colors applied onto said pixel area have centers of gravity all substantially matching each other.

4. (Previously Presented) The print apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein dots of the ink materials of the plural colors applied onto said pixel area overlap at least in part.

5. (Currently Amended) The print apparatus according to Claim 2, wherein a plurality of dots of the secondary color are laid in different application orders of the ink material of said a certain color and the ink material of said ~~another~~ second color in said pixel area.

6. (Currently Amended) The print apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said recording ~~head~~ means comprises a plurality of recording elements arranged in such a manner that recording elements for applying the ink material of said a certain color

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are symmetric in a scanning direction with respect to recording element for applying the ink material of said another second color.

7. (Currently Amended) The print apparatus according to Claim 6, wherein said recording head means comprises recording elements for applying at least ink materials of cyan, magenta, and yellow, wherein, with respect to a recording element corresponding to either a the certain color, the recording elements corresponding to the other colors are located in symmetry in the scanning direction.

8. (Currently Amended) The print apparatus according to Claim 6, wherein said recording head means comprises two sets of recording elements for applying at least ink materials of cyan, magenta, and yellow arranged in symmetry in the scanning direction.

9. (Currently Amended) The print apparatus according to Claim 7, wherein said recording head means further comprises a recording element for applying black ink.

10. (Currently Amended) The print apparatus according to Claim 8, wherein said recording head means further comprises a recording element for applying black ink.

11. (Currently Amended) The print apparatus according to Claim 6, wherein the ink materials of the plural colors applied to said pixel area are applied by one scan of said recording head means.

12. (Currently Amended) The print apparatus according to Claim 1,
wherein the ink materials of the plural colors applied to said pixel area are applied by
plural scans in forward and backward scanning directions of said recording head means.

13. (Currently Amended) The print apparatus according to Claim 1,
comprising a memory for storing data for selectively applying the ink materials of said
plural colors onto the print medium in accordance with the color image and for storing data
for enabling the ink material of said a certain color to be applied plural times onto said
pixel area.

14. (Previously Presented) The print apparatus according to Claim 13,
wherein said memory is a print buffer.

15. (Previously Presented) The print apparatus according to Claim 7,
comprising a memory for storing data for selectively applying the ink materials of said
plural colors onto the print medium in accordance with the color image, in correspondence
to each of said plurality of recording elements.

16. (Currently Amended) The print apparatus according to either any
one of Claims 1 to 15, wherein said recording head means ejects the ink materials by heat.

17. (Currently Amended) A print apparatus which forms a color image
by applying ink materials of plural colors onto a print medium using a recording means
including a plurality of nozzle arrays arranged along a predetermined direction, said nozzle
array having a plurality of nozzles to eject ink materials, said apparatus comprising[[],]:

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a scanner to scan the recording means in forward scanning and backward scanning directions, wherein said scanner scans along the predetermined direction; and

a print controller to control the printing by applying plural ink materials for each pixel area, said pixel area being an area serving as a unit area to form a color thereon,

wherein, on a pixel area for forming thereon a process color being represented in ink materials of plural colors, said print controller forms a plurality of dots of the process color, in printing during one scan of said recording means by said scanner, and

wherein an application order of the ink materials of plural colors for forming the process color may be symmetric.

18. (Previously Presented) The print apparatus according to Claim 1, said apparatus being applied to a copy machine having a scanner.

19. (Previously Presented) The print apparatus according to Claim 1, said apparatus being applied to a facsimile machine having a transmitter and receiver of data.

20. (Currently Amended) A print method which forms a color image by applying ink materials of plural colors onto a print medium using a recording means including a plurality of nozzle arrays arranged along a predetermined direction, the nozzle array having a plurality of nozzles to eject ink materials, said method comprising the following steps:

scanning the recording means in forward scanning and backward scanning directions, wherein the scanning is performed along the predetermined direction; controlling the printing so that a printing means executes the printing while the scanning step scans the recording means in the forward scanning and the backward scanning directions,

wherein, in said printing control step, the print controller applies plural ink materials for each pixel area, the pixel area ~~being an area~~ serving as a unit area to form a primary or secondary color thereon,

wherein at plural positions on a pixel area for forming the secondary color thereon, in said printing control step, the print controller forms dots of the secondary color, in ink materials of plural colors for forming the secondary color, ~~during one scan by the scanner~~, and

~~wherein, in said printing control step, the print controller applies the ink materials of plural colors so that an application order of the ink materials of plural colors, of the dots of the secondary color to be formed at plural positions on the pixel area may be symmetric~~

wherein the ink materials of plural colors are applied so that an application order of the ink material of predetermined color and the ink material of second color, of the dots of the secondary color to be formed at plural positions on the pixel area, is symmetric, the predetermined color and the second color being for forming the secondary color.

21. (Currently Amended) The print method according to Claim 20, wherein the recording ~~head~~ means comprises two sets of recording elements for applying the ink material of a certain color, which are arranged in symmetry in a scanning direction

with respect to a recording element for applying the ink material of ~~an~~~~another~~ a second color, and

wherein a first step and a second step are carried out by one scan of the recording head means.

22. (Currently Amended) A print method which forms a color image by applying ink materials of plural colors onto a print medium using a recording means including a plurality of nozzle arrays arranged along a predetermined direction, the nozzle array having a plurality of nozzles to eject ink materials, said method comprising the following steps:

scanning the recording means in forward scanning and backward scanning directions, wherein the scanning is performed along the predetermined direction; and

controlling the printing by applying plural ink materials for each pixel area, the pixel area ~~being an area~~ serving as a unit area to form a color thereon,

wherein, on a pixel area for forming thereon a process color being represented in ink materials of plural colors, in said printing control step, the print controller forms a plurality of dots of the process color, in printing during one scan of the recording means by the scanner, and

wherein an application order of the ink materials of plural colors for forming the process color ~~may be~~ is symmetric.

23. (Currently Amended) The print method according to Claim 22, wherein the recording head means comprises two sets of recording elements for applying the ink material of a certain color and recording elements for applying the ink material of

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an another a second color arranged in symmetry in the scanning direction, and wherein said scanning step is performed by the recording head means.

24. (Currently Amended) The print method according to Claim 23, wherein said scanning step is performed by a plurality of scans in forward and backward scanning directions of the recording head means.

25. (Currently Amended) A print apparatus which forms a color image by applying ink materials of plural colors onto a print medium, using a recording means including a plurality of nozzle arrays arranged along a predetermined direction, the nozzle array having a plurality of nozzles to eject ink materials, said apparatus comprising:

a scanner to scan the recording means in forward scanning and backward scanning directions, wherein said scanner scans along said predetermined direction;

a print controller to control the printing so that a printing means executes the printing while said scanner scans said recording means in the forward scanning and the backward scanning directions,

wherein said print controller applies plural ink materials for each pixel area, said pixel area being an area serving as a unit area to form a primary or secondary color thereon,

wherein at plural positions on a pixel area for forming the secondary color thereon, said print controller forms dots of the secondary color, in ink materials of plural colors for forming the secondary color, during one scan by said scanner;

wherein said print controller applies ~~said ink materials of plural colors so that an application order of said ink materials of plural colors, of said dots of the~~

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~~secondary color to be formed at plural positions on said pixel area, may be symmetric,~~
wherein said ink materials of plural colors are applied so that an
application order of said ink material of predetermined color and said ink material of a
second color, of said dots of the secondary color to be formed at plural positions on said
pixel area, is symmetric, said predetermined color and the second color being for forming
the secondary color, and

a data buffer configuration to configure image data to be printed by
said plurality of nozzles.

26. (Previously Presented) A data buffer configuration of a print apparatus, said configuration comprising image data of a certain color written into a plurality of print buffers by a print controller, wherein the print controller controls a printing of an image by means of a plurality of nozzles,

wherein said printing is executed by applying plural ink materials for each pixel area to form a primary or secondary color thereon, said pixel area being a unit area,

wherein, as to the pixel area forming the secondary color thereon, dots of the secondary color are formed, in ink materials of plural colors, at plural positions on the pixel area to form the secondary color.

27. (Previously Presented) The data buffer configuration according to Claim 26, wherein the same data may be written into two print buffers.